IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yoshiro OKAMI et al.

Application No.: 10/531,520   Confirmation No.: 9089

Filed: November 16, 2005   Art Unit: 1797

For: APPARATUS FOR INTRODUCING   Examiner: N. A. Bowers
       BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL, METHOD OF
       INTRODUCING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL
       AND MAGNETIC SUPPORT FOR
       INTRODUCING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated January 22, 2009, the Examiner has required a restriction between the claims of Group I (claims 1-18, 31-36 and 41); Group II (Claims 19-27 and 37-34) and Group III (Claims 28-30).

In response thereto, Applicant elects to prosecute the claims of Group I, namely apparatus claims 1-18, 31-36 and 41.

However, as noted in the Office Action, once product claims are found allowable, the Applicant will be entitled to have process claims rejoined in the application, as long as the process claims depend from or otherwise require the limitations of the allowed product claims.
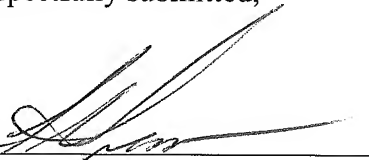
Favorable action and early allowance of the claims are requested.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP   LRS/whg

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Leonard R. Svensson, Registration No 30,330 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 19, 2009   Respectfully submitted,

By Leonard R. Svensson
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